THE
Theatrical Observer;
AND
Daily Bills of the Play.

"Nothing extenuate, nor set down aught in malice."—*Othello.*

No. 5699. *Friday, March* 27, 1840. *Price* 1*d.*

"The Play's the thing."—Ask for *Thomas's Observer.*

COVENT GARDEN THEATRE

LAST night, Mr. Charles Kemble performed the character of *Mercutio*, in *Romeo and Juliet.* The results of serious indisposition are painfully evident in this gentleman's appearance. He looks thin, and his voice is very weak, nevertheless he performed his justly admired assumption in a manner unapproachable by any actor of the present day, besides himself. The mercurial *Mercutio* received a buoyancy at the hands of Mr. Kemble, to which the character has long been a stranger; it was in truth exquisitely performed, and drew down great applause. The speech descriptive of Queen Mab carried the house by storm. Her Majesty and Prince Albert were present, & the house was crowded. Mr. Kemble will perform five nights more, on Monday next, *Mercutio*, on Wednesday, *Don Felix*, in *The Wonder*, on Friday, *Charles Surface*, in *The School for Scandal*, on Tuesday, April 7, *Benedick*, in *Much Ado About Nothing*, and in the same week, *Hamlet*, which will be his last performance.

HAY-MARKET THEATRE.

Hobbs, Dobbs, and Stubbs; or, The Three Grocers, which was produced at this Theatre, for the first time, last night, is the substituted title of *Les Trois Epiciers*, a Vaudeville, in three acts, performed at the Theatre des Variétés, Paris, in January last. There is nothing at all new in the construction of this "comical piece of eccentricity," as it is termed in the bills, and in the early part of the piece there was much hissing, when Webster stepped forward, and said, "Ladies and Gentlemen,—If you will only hear this piece to the conclusion, I pledge you my honor it shall be withdrawn if you disapprove of it at the end." This restored silence, and one or two bits of humour in the second act gained great applause, but the improbability of the plot completely spoilt the good reception of the piece. It was not announced for repetition. *Born to Good Luck, His Last Legs*, and *John Jones*, were the afterpieces.—The house was crammed to suffocation.

We perceive by the bills that the new piece will be repeated in a compressed form on Tuesday next.

The following fashionables visited this Theatre during the week: The Duchess of Cambridge, Princess Augusta of Cambridge, Prince George of Cambridge, Prince Louis Napoleon, Baron Knesebeck, Earl of Uxbridge and family, Earl of Fingal, the Earl and Countess of Listowell, the Countess Stanhope, Marchioness Cornwallis, Lady Singleton, Lady Barham, Marquis of Douglas, Lord Segrave, Earl of Verulam, Lord Shelburn, Lord Templetown, Viscount Loftus, Viscount Cantalupe, Sir Watkin Wynn, Colonel Wemyss.

Accident to Mr. Meadows.—Mr. Meadows, of Covent Garden Theatre, met with a severe accident on Wednesday. He called upon Mr. Butler, of the Olympic, and, while playing with a large dog belonging to that gentleman, the animal sprang at him

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and bit him from the right ear to the eye. Surgical assistance was immediately obtained. After the loss of much blood, Mr. Meadows was able to proceed with a friend (Mr. Leman Rede,) to Covent Garden Theatre. It is ascertained the dog is not in a rabid state.

Carter at Nismes.—A Nismes paper mentions that a few days ago, M. Carter gave a performance with his animals, in the ancient Amphitheatre of that city. The spectators, as in the time of the Romans, occupied the seats up to the top of the building, and the effect was exceedingly good.

Fashionable Lounges.

To the Editor of The Theatrical Observer.

DEAR MR. EDITOR.—Just wish to say a word—beg pardon, but will you excuse me—I have to mention that I've arranged so as to rub shoulders with my friends and the fashionable world at one or other of the *Grand Lounges* about town :—

Monday, stroll'd to Madame TUSSAUD's elegant Exhibition, Golden Corinthian Saloon, Baker-st., Portman Sq.—Just added to their unrivalled collection, the splendid full length figures of Her Majesty the Queen, in her Windsor uniform, and Prince Albert in his military costume, also the group of John Knox, reproving Mary Queen of Scots, consisting of Mary, Elizabeth, Henry VIII, Luther, Calvin, and Knox, in magnificent costumes.

Tuesday, I am to be found at the ROYAL DIORAMA, Regent's Park, admiring the two splendid Paintings by Le Chevalier Bouton, representing *The Coronation of Her Majesty Queen Victoria, in Westminster Abbey*, and the *Interior of the Church of Santa Croce*, at Florence, with all the effect of light and shade, from noon till midnight. This Exhibition is always crowded with fashionables.

Wednesday, pop into the COSMORAMA, 209, Regent Street, to view the new and splendid views now exhibiting—quite delighted. Much amused with the astonishing feats of *The Industrious Fleas*, which are also daily to be seen here.

In my way from the Theatre, drop into the *Harmonic Meeting*, held at EVANS's Grand Hotel, King Street, Covent Garden,—quite delighted with the excellence of the singing, commences every evening at ten o'clock. When Mrs. P. is out of town, stay a week, and only pay a guinea for bed and breakfast. I'm always to be found on Saturday, at half-past five, at the Convivial Dinner held here.

Thursday, pay a visit to the Somerset Gallery, 151, Strand, next door to Somerset House, to see the Royal Glass Working Exhibition, paid but sixpence for admittance, and a specimen given to the value. Highly amused by seeing the art of glass blowing, spinning working and modelling, horses, dogs, stags, birds, &c,

Afterwards visit the Egyptian Hall, Piccadilly, to view *Catlin's North American Indian Gallery*,—containing 500 Paintings, made by his own hand, during seven years' travel amongst the Wildest Tribes of Indians in North America; and also an immense Collection of Indian Curiosities, Dresses, Weapons, &c.; and a *Crow Wigwam*, 25 feet high—a magnificent specimen from the Rocky Mountains.

"All good *spirits* come to my *Beck*," at his Dr. Johnson's Tavern, Bolt Court, Fleet Street—where you meet excellent company—capital fare at *fair* prices—delightful singing—(commences every evening at a quarter to nine,) cigars, billiards, good beds, and an enticing bill of fare,

Friday, drop into *The Florentine Anatomical Museum*, 27, Margaret Street, Regent Street, to admire the splendid Anatomical Figures of Venus & Adonis, modelled from nature, and as large as life,

On the same day, paid a delightful visit to *The Typorama*, Quadrant, Regent Street, a large and accurate modelled view of *The Underlciff of the Isle of White*, constructed by L. L. B. Ibbotson, sq. For the lovers of Geology, a number of the fossils have been collected, and specimens of the remarkable plants, sea weeds, insects, &c. found in the neighbourhood.

Afterwards called at Emmett's, 27, Holborn Hill, to view his Novel Pen Maker by which any one can make a superior Pen in less than one minute—also his much improved Needle Threader, to enable Ladies, whose sight is impaired to thread their needles with the greatest ease—a most ingenious contrivance.

"Why are my eyes like Balfe's Opera of *The Maid of Artois?*" "Because they've got the *Light of Other Days* in them!" through trying the efficacy of GRIMSTONE's Herbacious Eye Snuff—a 2s. 4d. & 1s. 3d. Canister restored my visual organs—quite a miracle—left off my spectacles.—Bought at 39, Broad-st, Bloomsbury—have a care to the inventor's signature—and that it is patronized by the Royal Family and authorized by her Majesty's Treasury on each canister.

On Saturday, I examine *Miss Linwood's* curious Needle Work, Leicester Square—just added other beautiful specimens of her art—But I intrude—beg pardon—Your's &c.—PAUL PRY.

Theatre Royal, Covent Garden.

This Evening, (5th Time) Colley Cibber's Comedy of The

Double Gallant!

Or, the Sick Lady's Cure.

Sir Soloman Sadlife,.....Mr W. FARREN,
Atall, Mr C. MATHEWS,
Careless.....MrG. VANDENHOFF,
Clerimont, Mr J. VINING,
Mr Wilful, ... Mr F. MATTHEWS,
Sir Harry Atall....Mr GRANBY,
Captain Strutt, MrSELBY, Saunter, MrWIGAN,
Sir Squable Splithair,....Mr AYLIFFE,
Finder, MrW.H. PAYNE, Dr.Bolus, MrMorelli,
Rhubarb, Mr Ridgway, Supple, Mr Honner,
Officer, Mr C. J. Smith, Page, Miss Lane,
Birdman, MrAndrews, Indian Man, MrIreland,
Armenian, MrDavis, Clarinda'sServant, MrHughes,
Lady Dainty, ...Mrs W. LACY,
Lady Sadlife,.....Mrs NISBETT,
Clarinda,..... Madame VESTRIS,
Slyvia, Mrs BROUGHAM, Wishwell, Mrs ORGER,
Situp, Mrs HUMBY, Sylvia's Maid MissJackson,

The Comedy will conclude with

A Dance by the Characters.

After which, (9th Time) a New Ballet Divertissement, entitled

Les Champs Elysees.

THE CHARACTERS BY

Master W. SMITH, (Pupil of Mr Oscar Byrne,)
Miss FAIRBROTHER, Miss RYALS,
Mrs GIBSON, Miss KENDAL, MissE.KENDAL
Mr C. J. SMITH,
Mr RIDGWAY, Mr GIBSON,
Messrs. Gardner, Ireland, Morelli, Hughes, Hodges,
Mesdames Hatton, Chester, Fenten, Fitzjames, &c.

To conclude with, the Drama of

SECRET SERVICE.

Fouché, ... (*Minister of Police*) ..... Mr COOPER,
Desaunais, Mr DIDDEAR, Michel Perrin, MrW.FARREN,
Jules de Crussac, MrFITZJAMES, Bernard, Mr J. BLAND,
FirstClerk..MrHONNER, SecondClerk..MrHUGHES,
Servant....MrCONNELL, Porter....Mr IRELAND,
Therese, Miss LEE.

To-morrow, The Double Gallant, Les Champs Elysees, and Secret Service.

Theatre Royal, Haymarket.

This Evening, the Play of

Merchant of Venice

Duke of Venice, Mr GALLOT,
Anthonio, Mr PHELPS, Bassano, Mr J. WEBSTER,
Solanio, Mr WORRELL,
Salarino, Mr HOWE, Gratiano, Mr W. LACY,
Shylock, ... Mr MACREADY,
Tubal, Mr GOUGH, Lorenzo, Mr CAULFIELD
Launcelot, Mr WEBSTER,
Gobbo, ... Mr STRICKLAND,
Leonardo, Mr BISHOP, Stephano, Mr GREEN,
Balthazar, Mr CLARK,
Porthia, Mrs WARNER, Nerissa, Miss TRAVERS
Jessica, Miss P. HORTON.

In the course of the Evening, the **BAND** will perform
Overtures to "Semiramide" and "Lac de Fees."

After which, the new Farce, in 2 Acts, by Mr. Bernard, called

His Last Legs.

O'Callaghan, (a Man of Genius on his Last Legs,) Mr POWER,
Rivers, (a Country Gentleman) Mr STRICKLAND,
Charles Rivers, Mr WALTER LACY,
Dr. Banks, Mr GOUGH.
Mrs Montague..... Mrs W. CLIFFORD,
Julia Banks, Miss TRAVERS,
Betty .... Miss GROVE.

To conclude with, the Farce of

Tom Noddy's Secret.

Captain Ormond, ... Mr J. WEBSTER,
Mr Thomas Noddy, Mr STRICKLAND,
Inkpen, Mr OXBERRY,
Gabrielle, ... Miss CHARLES,
Mary, Miss TRAVERS.

To-morrow, The Jealous Wife, His Last Legs, and My Wife's Mother.

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